



NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AND ETHICS ENFORCEMENT
2018 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST

919-814-3600

www.ncsbe.gov/Ethics/SEI

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL SIGNED, ORIGINAL TO
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION, 1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324

FILER'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)				
Prefix	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix
Mr.	George	Wilmarth	Nickel	III
CURRENT EMPLOYER			JOB TITLE	
The Law Offices of Wiley Nickel, PLLC			Attorney/Owner	
NATURE OR TYPE OF BUSINESS				
Law Firm				
REASON FOR FILING (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)				
STATE GOVERNMENT JOB (Specify Agency)		BOARD/COMMISSION (List complete name of all State boards on which you are serving or are being considered)		
JUDICIAL OFFICER (Specify Office)		LEGISLATOR (Specify House or Senate)		
		Senate		

A. Do other immediate family members reside in your household?

☒ Yes ☐ No

When used throughout this form, the term **Immediate family** includes your spouse (unless legally separated). It also includes members of your extended family (your and your spouse's children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, and siblings, and the spouses of each of those persons) **who reside in your household**.

List the full name of **all adults** and **emancipated minors** in your household. A minor is a child under 18 years old. Minors are emancipated by marriage, enlistment in the US military, or court order for emancipation.

FULL NAME OF ADULTS & EMANCIPATED MINORS	RELATIONSHIP	EMPLOYER	JOB TITLE	NATURE OF BUSINESS
Caroline Edwards Nickel	Spouse	Stam Law Firm, PLLC	Associate Attorney	Law Firm

B. List **ONLY the initials** of all **unemancipated minors** in your household below. A minor is a child under 18 years old.

Note: You must list the full name of each minor child on the Confidential Form available at the end of this document.

INITIALS FOR UNEMANCIPATED CHILDREN	RELATIONSHIP	EMPLOYER	JOB TITLE	NATURE OF BUSINESS
PMN	Son	N/A	Preschool Student	Preschool
ARN	Daughter	N/A	Preschool Student	Preschool

PROPERTY INTERESTS

1. As of December 31, 2017, did you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family:

A. Have an ownership interest in North Carolina real estate (including your residence) with a market value of \$10,000 or more?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Owner of Real Estate	% Ownership Interest	Location by City	Location by County
George W. Nickel III. & Caroline E. Nickel	100	Cary	Wake
Caroline E. Nickel	8.33	Cary	Wake
Caroline E. Nickel	4.5	Sanford	Harnett
George W. Nickel III.	12.5	Raleigh	Wake

B. Lease or rent real estate or personal property to or from the State of North Carolina with a market value of \$10,000 or more?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Name of Lessor	Name of Lessee (Renter)	If Real Estate, Location by City & County	If Personal Property, Describe

2. At any time during 2016 or 2017 , did you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family sell to or buy from the State of North Carolina personal property with a market value of \$10,000 or more?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Name of Purchaser	Name of Seller	Type of Property

FINANCIAL INTERESTS

3. As of December 31, 2017, did you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family own any of the following financial interests valued at \$10,000 or more? LIST EACH COMPANY INDIVIDUALLY

A. Stock in a publicly owned company?

☒ Yes ☐ No

- Do not list ownership interests in a widely held investment fund (including mutual funds, regulated investment companies, or pension or deferred compensation plans) if: (i) the fund is publicly traded or its assets are widely diversified; and (ii) neither you nor an immediate family member are able to control the assets held in the mutual fund, investment company, or pension or deferred compensation plan.

Owner of Interest	Full Name of Company (Do not use a ticker symbol)
George W. Nickel III.	Alphabet Inc.
George W. Nickel III.	California Resources Corporation
George W. Nickel III.	Amazon.com
George W. Nickel III.	Apple Inc.

B. Stock Options in a company or business?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Owner of Stock Option	Full Name of Company (Do not use a ticker symbol)

C. Interests in a non-publicly owned company or business entity (including interests in sole proprietorships, partnerships, limited partnerships, joint ventures, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and closely held corporations)?

☒ Yes ☐ No If "No", proceed to question 4.

Owner of Interest	Name of Company or Business Entity
Caroline E. Nickel	J.M. Edwards Jewelry Inc.
George W. Nickel III.	The Law Offices of Wiley Nickel, PLLC
George W. Nickel III.	MyReferral.com, Inc.
Caroline E. Nickel	J. Michael Edwards LP
George W. Nickel III.	Nickel Family LLC
George W. Nickel III.	1818 Q Street Partners LLC
George W. Nickel III.	Nickel Family Resources LLC

C (1). For each non-publicly owned company or business entity (the "primary company") identified in question 3.C above, please list the names of *any other companies or business entities* in which the primary company owns securities or equity interests valued at over \$10,000, *if known*.

Non-Publicly Owned Company or Business Entity (the Primary Company)	Other Companies in which the Primary Company Owns Security or Equity Interests
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None or Not Known	

C (2). If you know that any company or business entity listed in 3.C or 3.C(1) above has any material business dealings or business contracts *with the State of North Carolina*, or is *regulated by the State*, provide a brief description of that business activity.

Name of Company or Business Entity	Description of Business Activity with the State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None or Not Known	

4. As of December 31, 2017, were you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family the beneficiaries of a vested trust with a value of \$10,000 or more that was created, established, or controlled by you?

Do not list assets held in blind trusts. See 2017 SEI Helpful Tips for the definition of “Vested Trust” and “Blind Trust.”

☐ Yes ☒ No

Name and Address of Trustee	Description of the Trust	Your Relationship to the Trust

5. As of December 31, 2017, did you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family have liabilities of \$10,000 or more, excluding the mortgage on your primary personal residence? Examples include credit card debts, auto loans, student loans, personal loans and intra-family debt.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name of Debtor (You, Spouse, Immediate Family Member)	Type of Creditor (Commercial Bank, Credit Union, Individual, etc.)
George W. Nickel III.	Nationstar Mortgage LLC
George W. Nickel III.	BMW Finance
George W. Nickel III.	TD Auto Finance

6. List each source of income (not specific amounts) of more than \$5,000 received by you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family during 2017. Include salary, wages, state/local government retirement, professional fees, honoraria, interest, dividends, rental income, business income, and other types of income required to be reported on your State and federal tax returns.

Do not include income received from the following sources:

- ▶ Capital gains
- ▶ Federal government retirement
- ▶ Military retirement
- ▶ Social security income/SSDI

Recipient of Income	Name of Source	Type of Business/Industry	Type of Income
<input type="checkbox"/> I had no reportable income over \$5,000 in 2017.			
George W. Nickel III.	The Law Offices of Wiley Nickel, PLLC	Law Firm	Salary
George W. Nickel III.	Hamilton Zanze LLC	Multifamily Investments	Business Income
George W. Nickel III.	Nickel Family LLC	Agribusiness	Dividends
George W. Nickel III.	Nickel Resources LLC	Agribusiness	Dividends
Caroline E. Nickel	J.M. Edwards Jewelry, Inc.	Retail Jewelry	Wages
Caroline E. Nickel	Stam Law Firm, PLLC	Law Firm	Salary
Caroline E. Nickel	J. Michael Edwards LP	Real Estate	Rental Real Estate
George W. Nickel III.	4030 Wake Forest Road	Real Estate	Rental Real Estate

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC RELATIONSHIPS

7(a). During 2017, were you, your spouse or members of your immediate family a director, officer, governing board member, employee, independent contractor, or registered lobbyist of a nonprofit corporation or organization operating in the State of North Carolina primarily for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, public health and safety, or educational purposes?

☐ Yes ☒ No If "No", proceed to question 8.

- ▶ Do not list State boards or entities, or entities created by a political subdivision of the State.
- ▶ Do not list organizations of which you are a mere member.

Name of Person	His/Her Position	Name of Nonprofit Corporation or Organization	Nature of Business or Purpose of Organization

7(b). If the nonprofit corporations or organizations listed above do business with the State of North Carolina or receive State funds, please provide a brief description of the nature of that business, if known or with which due diligence could reasonably be known.

Name of Nonprofit Corporation or Organization	Describe State Business or State Funding
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☐ None or Not Known

Please answer the following question as it pertains to the following board/agency:

Senate

8. During 2017, were you, your spouse, or members of your immediate family a director, officer, or governing board member of any society, organization, or advocacy group with an interest in matters over which your agency or board may have jurisdiction?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Legislator/Judicial Officer - You are not required to complete this question if you are filing because you are a legislator or a judicial officer or you are filing as an appointee to those offices.

► Do not list organizations of which you are only a member (not serving in a leadership role).

Name of Person	Name of Society, Organization or Advocacy Group	Leadership Position (Director, Officer, Board Member)

9(a). List the name of each company or business with which you were associated where you or a member of your immediate family was an employee, director, officer, partner, proprietor, or member or manager as of December 31, 2017.

Name of Person	Relationship to Filer	Name of Company	Role of Person
<input type="checkbox"/> No Business Associations			
George W. Nickel III.	Self	4030 Wake Forest Road	Partner
George W. Nickel III.	Self	The Law Offices of Wiley Nickel, PLLC	Manager
George W. Nickel III.	Self	Nickel Family LLC	Member
George W. Nickel III.	Self	Nickel Resources LLC	Member
Caroline E. Nickel	Spouse	Edwards & Edwards Real Estate, Inc.	Director & Officer
Caroline E. Nickel	Spouse	J.M. Edwards Jewelry Inc.	Director, Officer & Employee
Caroline E. Nickel	Spouse	J. Michael Edwards LP	Limited Partner
Caroline E. Nickel	Spouse	Stam Law Firm, PLLC	Employee
George W. Nickel III.	Self	1818 Q Street Partners	Partner

9(b). If you know that any company or business entity listed in 9(a) above had any material business dealings or business contracts with the State of North Carolina or was regulated by the State as of December 31, 2017, provide a brief description of that business activity.

Name of Company or Business Entity	Description of Business Activity with the State
<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable (No entities listed on #9a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No relationship / Not known	

10. Are you a practicing attorney?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Judicial Officer/State Attorney

If "Yes", check each category of legal representation in which you or the law firm with which you are affiliated has earned legal fees of more than \$10,000 during 2017.

☐ Administrative ☐ Admiralty ☐ Corporate ☒ Criminal
☐ Decedent's Estates ☐ Environmental ☐ Insurance ☐ Labor
☐ Local Government ☐ Real Property ☐ Securities ☐ Tax
☐ Tort litigation (including negligence) ☐ Utilities Regulation ☒ Other category not listed.

11. During 2017, were you a licensed professional (other than an attorney) or did you provide consulting services individually or as a member of a professional association for which you charged or were paid over \$10,000?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Type of Business	Nature of Services Rendered

Please answer the following question as it pertains to the following board/agency:

Senate

12. Are you or your employer, your spouse or members of your immediate family, or their employer currently:

- Licensed by the State board or employing entity with which you are or will be associated **or**
- Regulated by the State board or employing entity with which you are or will be associated **or**
- Have a business relationship with the State board or employing entity with which you are or will be associated?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Legislator/Judicial Officer - You are not required to complete this question if you are filing because you are a legislator or a judicial officer ("judicial officer" is defined in the SEI Helpful Tips) or you are filing as an appointee to those offices.

Name of Person	Name of Employer (if applicable)	Type of Relationship (Licensing, Regulatory, Business)
George W. Nickel III.	The Law Offices of Wiley Nickel, PLLC	Licensed by North Carolina State Bar
Caroline E. Nickel	Stam Law Firm, PLLC	Licensed by North Carolina State Bar

13. Are you, your spouse, or a member of your immediate family currently registered as a lobbyist or lobbyist principal or were you registered as such within the 12 months preceding your filing of this form?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Name of Lobbyist	Lobbyist's Principal	Date of Registration	Registration Expiration

OTHER DISCLOSURES

14. During any calendar quarter in 2017 (but only the time period after you were appointed, employed or filed or were nominated as a candidate), did you

- receive any gift(s) exceeding \$200 per quarter from a person or group of persons acting together, **and**
- when both you and those person(s) were outside North Carolina at the time you accepted the gift(s), **and**
- the gift(s) were given under circumstances that would lead a reasonable person to conclude that they were given for lobbying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

- ▶ Do not report gifts given by members of your extended family.
- ▶ Do not report gifts that have previously been reported by you to the Department of the Secretary of State on the "Expense Report for Exempted Persons."

Date Item Received	Name and Address of Donor(s)	Describe Item Received	Estimated Market Value

Please answer the following question as it pertains to the following board/agency:

Senate

15. During 2017 (but only the time period after you were appointed, employed, or filed or were nominated as a candidate) did you

- accepted a "scholarship" exceeding \$200 from a person or group of persons acting together **and**
- those person(s) were outside North Carolina **and**
- the scholarship was related to your public position? **A "scholarship" is a grant-in-aid, either direct or indirect, to attend a conference, meeting, or similar event, including tuition, travel, lodging, meals, and other similar expenses.**

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Judicial Officer - You are not required to complete this question if you are a judicial officer or you are filing as a judicial officer appointee.

- ▶ Do not report gifts that have previously been reported by you to the Department of the Secretary of State on the "Expense Report for Exempted Persons."
- ▶ Legislators are not required to report scholarships paid by a nonpartisan legislative organization of which the legislator or the General Assembly is a member or participant or an affiliate of that organization.

Date of Scholarship	Name and Address of Donor(s)	Describe Event	Estimated Market Value

Please answer the following question as it pertains to the following board/agency:

Senate

16. Were you appointed or are you being considered for an appointment to a covered board by the **Governor** or another Council of State member?

Council of State members are:

- Governor
- Lt. Governor
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- State Treasurer
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Attorney General
- Commissioner of Agriculture
- Commissioner of Labor
- Commissioner of Insurance

☐ Yes ☒ No

If “Yes”, list all contributions you (NOT immediate family members) made during 2017 with a cumulative total of more than \$1,000 to the Governor or other Council of State member who appointed you.

- ▶ Contributions are defined in N.C.G.S. 163-278.6(6) and include, but are not limited to, “any advance, conveyance, deposit, distribution, transfer of funds, loan, payment, gift, pledge or subscription of money or anything of value whatsoever.”

Date	Amount	Contributed to
<input type="checkbox"/> No contribution(s) with a cumulative total of more than \$1,000		

Please answer the following question as it pertains to the following board/agency:

Senate

17. Are you an appointee or prospective appointee to:

- a. the head of a principal state department (e.g. cabinet secretary) appointed by the Governor;
or
b. a North Carolina Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals, Superior or District Court Judge;
or
c. a member of any of the following boards:
- ABC Commission
 - Coastal Resources Commission
 - State Board of Education
 - State Board of Elections
 - Division of Employment Security
 - Environmental Management Commission
 - Industrial Commission
 - Human Resources Commission
 - Rules Review Commission
 - Board of Transportation
 - UNC Board of Governors
 - Utilities Commission
 - Wildlife Resources Commission

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "No", proceed to question 18.

d. If so, were you appointed or are you being considered for appointment to that public position by a Council of State member? Council of State members are listed in question 16.

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "No", proceed to question 18.

e. If so, you must indicate whether during 2017 you (not immediate family members) engaged in any of the following activities with respect to or on behalf of the candidate or campaign committee of the Council of State member who appointed you to your public position:

☐ Yes ☐ No

i. Collected contributions from multiple contributors, took possession of such multiple contributions, and transferred or delivered those collected contributions to the candidate or committee? Contributions are defined in question 16.

ii. Hosted a fundraiser at your residence or place of business?

☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Volunteered for campaign-related activities, which include, but are not limited to, phone banks, event assistance, mailings, canvassing, surveying, or any other activity that advances the campaign of a candidate?

☐ Yes ☐ No

18. Have you ever been convicted of a felony for which you have not received either: (i) a pardon of innocence; or (ii) an order of expungement regarding that conviction?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Offense	Date of Conviction	County of Conviction	State of Conviction

19. Are you aware of any other information that *you believe* may assist the State Ethics Commission in advising you concerning your compliance with the State Government Ethics Act?

☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please provide such information below.

AFFIRMATION

I affirm that the information provided in this Statement of Economic Interest and any attachments hereto are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I also certify that I have not transferred, and will not transfer, any asset, interest, or property for the purpose of concealing it from disclosure while retaining an equitable interest.

I understand that my Statement of Economic Interest and any attachments or supplements thereto (with the exception of the Confidential Form regarding Unemancipated Children) are public record.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand N.C.G.S. 138A-26 regarding concealing or failing to disclose material information and N.C.G.S. 138A-27 regarding providing false information:

§ 138A-26. Concealing or failing to disclose material information.

A filing person who knowingly conceals or knowingly fails to disclose information that is required to be disclosed on a statement of economic interest under this Article shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and shall be subject to disciplinary action under G.S. 138A-45.

§ 138A-27. Penalty for false information.

A filing person who provides false information on a statement of economic interest as required under this Article knowing that the information is false is guilty of a Class H felony and shall be subject to disciplinary action under G.S. 138A-45.

☒ I Agree. It is my intention that this check box constitutes my electronic signature. By checking this box I certify that the information provided in this Statement of Economic Interest and any attachments hereto are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Filed Electronically

Signature

2/8/2018

Date

George Wilmarth Nickel, III

Printed Name